

# Johnson County Commission 2020

Response ID:18 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

---

### 1. Candidate Name

Rob Patterson

### 2. District Number of Office Being Sought

2nd

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 22024 West 70th Street

City/State/Zip : Shawnee/KS/66226

### 4. Phone Number

9133339114

### 5. Email Address

rob@hit-inc.net

### 6. Campaign Website

to be completed

## 2. Candidate Background

---

### 7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

President of RMJK Enterprises (dba HIT Inc.) which is a transportation company headquartered in Kansas City Kansas.

### 8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

no

### 9. Other recent political/community experience? (25 words or less)

no

## 3. Issues and Policy

---

### 10. As a candidate, what are your top three priorities for Johnson County? (30 words or less)

Real Property Tax Reform

Fiscal Responsibility

Top Quality Parks and Libraries

### 11. What is your philosophy and approach to managing the county budget? (75 words or less)

The public demands that we be wise stewards of their tax dollars so every expenditure matters. We should carefully review our budget to ensure the dollars that are spent are spent wisely and that the public's needs are being met in a responsible way.

**12. There has been much discussion about metro-area regionalism. Please explain your views on regional cooperation. (75 words or less)**

Regionalism and cooperation has a place, and we should always be looking for ways to work together. That said, we should always put Johnson County's needs first.

**13. Describe your views on the balance between the distribution of costs and services between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County. (75 words or less)**

Certainly, unincorporated areas an important priority to ensure their needs are met, given there is not a city government in place. However, our responsibility is to the whole county, and that's particularly true when it comes to our independent boards, like parks and libraries and other critical county-wide services.

**14. What do you believe the role of the County should be in economic development? (75 words or less)**

The county should always foster a pro-business, pro-growth environment that is fair and doesn't favor one business type over another. We can work together with cities and the state to ensure Johnson County remains a great place to start a business and raise a family.

**15. What do you believe the takeaways for the County Commission should be from the COVID-19 pandemic experience? (75 words or less)**

I think we need to be careful about one-size-fits all lockdowns or mandates, and instead focus on common sense recommendations that are easy for the public to understand and follow. We need to listen to how our policies impact the lives of those in Johnson County, and any policy the county implements must be communicated clearly and intelligently to the people.

**16. What would you describe as the top five functions of county government? Please list them in your order of priority. (75 words or less)**

Public Safety  
Public Health  
Infrastructure  
Core services such as mental health  
Parks and Libraries

**17. What changes, if any, to the Johnson County Home Rule Charter do you believe should be considered? (75 words or less)**

With the Johnson County Charter Commission meeting in 2021, it would be appropriate to study the charter in depth to see if any improvements could be made after 20 years of the current system. The last charter commission had close votes on the issue of partisan elections as well as expanding the commission to nine members. I look forward to surveying the people of District 2 to gauge their views on these particular topics.

**18. What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (50 words or less)**

The current commission has been dominated by people who have held other offices, such as mayors and council members. I am an outsider, owning a business in the Kansas City area, and I know how the policies local government makes impact our businesses and our families.